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## OPEN MEETING AGENDA ITEM

May 4, 2020

Arizona Corporation Commission  
1200 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Letter in Support of Ratepayer Relief -- **E-01345A-20-0080**

On behalf of its 900,000+ members in Arizona, AARP has reviewed the April 17, 2020 Application of Arizona Public Service Company (APS) proposing an Emergency Relief Package for its customers experiencing financial hardship during these trying economic times. AARP commends the utility for proactively putting forth these proposals for short term relief for those that have recently lost their jobs and a one-time \$300 bill forgiveness for some residential consumers who are struggling to pay their bills, as well as some small business customer support, and we support the APS Application.

AARP has also reviewed the Commission Staff proposed order, filed on April 27, 2020, which recommends that APS' alternative proposal be approved to have \$36 million in unspent DSM funds be credited back to consumers (calculated to be an average of \$8.58 credit for each residential consumer). AARP can also support this proposal, as it will provide some needed relief to a broad range of consumers.

As a general rule, AARP discourages surcharges and other piecemeal approaches to utility ratemaking. When funds are collected from ratepayers in isolated mechanisms, there is the danger that funds will be collected without the opportunity to offset those increases with other financial factors that are decreasing. AARP supports having decisions made about demand side management programs and other investments be made in a full rate case, where all factors can be taken into account.

Sincerely,

Dana Marie Kennedy, MSW  
State Director AARP Arizona